

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)

5. **(Previously presented)** A method of manufacturing an automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst comprising a calcium salt, amorphous silica, and a copper compound, comprising reacting copper oxalate with calcium silicate to produce the calcium salt, the amorphous silica and the copper compound.

6. **(Previously presented)** A method of manufacturing an automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst comprising amorphous silica and a copper compound, comprising reacting copper oxalate with calcium silicate to produce the amorphous silica and the copper compound, and washing the reaction product obtained with water.

7. **(Previously presented)** A method of manufacturing an automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst comprising (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, (2) a calcium salt, and (3) a copper oxide, comprising reacting copper oxalate with calcium silicate to produce (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, (2) a calcium salt, and (3) a copper oxide, and baking the reaction product obtained.

8. **(Previously presented)** A method of manufacturing an automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst comprising (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, and (2) a copper oxide, comprising reacting a copper oxalate with calcium silicate to produce (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, (2) a calcium salt, and (3) a copper oxide, washing the reaction product obtained with water, and then baking the reaction product obtained.

9. **(Previously presented)** A method of manufacturing an automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst comprising (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, and (2) a copper oxide, comprising reacting copper oxalate with calcium silicate to produce (1) at least one of crystalline silica and amorphous silica, (2) a calcium salt, and (3) a copper oxide, baking the reaction product obtained, and then washing the reaction product obtained with water.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) An automobile exhaust gas purifying combustion catalyst prepared by the method according to any one of claims 5 to 9.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of according to any one of claims ~~5-9~~ 5 to 9, wherein the reacting step comprises a step selected from the group consisting of mixing the copper salt oxalate into an aqueous slurry of the calcium silicate, impregnating a solution of the copper salt oxalate into a molded body of the calcium silicate, and mixing a calcium silicate powder into a solution of the copper salt oxalate.

14. (Currently amended) The method of according to any one of claims 6, 8, or 9, further comprising treating the reaction product obtained with an acid or an aqueous copper salt solution prior to washing the reaction product obtained with water.